



# ***Daily Report***

## **Sub-Saharan Africa**

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# Daily Report

## Sub-Saharan Africa

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## Burundi

**Burundi: President Said Planning To Flee Country  
10 Jun**

**BR3005123496 Brussels DE MORGEN in Dutch  
30 May 96 p 8**

[Unattributed report: "Belgian School in Burundi Simply Goes On"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Brussels/Bujumbura — The Belgian school in Burundi will ignore the [Belgian] Foreign Ministry's request for it to close. There is no longer any need to abide by requests that come from Brussels as the school will no longer be subsidized as of the next school term. Moreover the school is doing well now: It has gained 70 students since France closed its school in Bujumbura last week.

First the French school in Bujumbura closed its doors, next France announced that it had suspended its military cooperation with Burundi and would withdraw the couple of dozen soldiers that are posted there. The other day the Belgian Foreign Ministry asked the Belgian school to close its doors before the end of the current school term. In a country like Burundi such a series of events always leads to the creation of a rumor mill. "This morning I had 10 Burundian journalists in my office," Jacques Serlet says. He is the secretary general of the association that runs the Belgian school. "They all want to hear only one thing: What do Belgium and France know that we do not know?"

Rumors even grew after a television address on Tuesday night [28 May] by Hutu President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya in which he chided the generals of the Tutsi-dominated army. The president is said to be planning to flee the country on 10 June, together with French soldiers. A French military intervention, although unthinkable, is another hypothesis. [passage omitted]

Clashes have abated since Bujumbura was ethnically cleansed and its inhabitants are almost exclusively Tutsis. Yet the arming of the civilians has increased the number of robberies and holdups in the capital. Recently a Belgian citizen was shot in the abdomen during such a holdup. Belgian soldiers that are assigned to the [Belgian] embassy keep a discreet eye on the school at the beginning and the end of classes. Although Serlet sees a bright future for the school, he will be retiring next month. After 31 years he will be returning to Ostend. "It is no fun anymore in Burundi," he says.

**Burundi: Coup Feared; Mobutu Seen Behind Arms Trafficking**

**BR3005132596 Brussels LE SOIR in French  
30 May 96 p 1**

[Article by Colette Braeckman: "Bujumbura Fears Takeover by Force"]

[FBIS Translated Text] "In Bujumbura power cuts are a daily occurrence and the insecurity is constant. In the countryside the Hutu guerrillas have infiltrated 11 of the 15 provinces, bringing no response from abroad, and this very week 50 displaced Tutsis were killed by armed gangs in Butezi, near the Tanzanian border. Each attack obviously brings reprisals by the military. But the situation is no worse than two months ago, or last year.... What worries us is the sudden closure of the French high school and the advice to the Belgians to return to Europe as quickly as possible...."

By telephone and fax many Belgians living in Burundi tell us of their fears: They fear a takeover by force and the Burundian capital is once again alive with rumors. Some fear a French intervention, in the style of operation "Turquoise" in Rwanda which was backed by the United Nations, but in which France alone set the agenda. The United Nations is at present continuing consultations on a possible "rapid humanitarian response" in the event of an explosion of violence, but no Western country has offered its services. Others fear a major offensive by Leonard Nyangoma's FDD [Forces for the Defense of Democracy], with the aim of opening up a corridor in the Cibitoke area, near the Rwandan border. Others still fear a military takeover on the eve of the anxiously awaited publication of the results of the UN investigation into the murder of President Ndadaye and the massacres which followed.

This investigation could clearly implicate many people in Burundi: the putschist officers, all those who passively assisted in the murder of the democratically elected Hutu president, and also senior officials from the majority FRODEBU [Front for Democracy in Burundi] party who, to avenge the death of Ndadaye, called upon their compatriots to massacre the Tutsis just a few months before the genocide in Rwanda.

### The Arsonist Fireman

The imminent publication of the investigation's findings is fuelling the tension and the rumors, and the 500 Belgians still in Burundi are considering a swift departure: "We are expecting the roof to cave in over our heads," Belgians in Bujumbura state.

In addition to the many deaths in the field, the situation in Burundi has in fact deteriorated since the visit by

the Zairian prime minister 10 days ago. Kengo wa Dondo spoke with his Burundian interlocutors of Zaire's decision to close the border, effectively preventing several MP's living in Uvira from taking part in Bujumbura's political life. But most significantly he spoke of Radio Democracy, the Burundian equivalent of Radio des Mille Collines, which continues to broadcast from Bukavu (the transmitter is apparently on the property of Mrs. Gulamali, Leonard Nyangoma's landlady), and of the FDD fighters who are collaborating with 10,000 former Rwandan soldiers in the camps immediately across the border from Burundi. Faced with the concern of the Burundians, Mr. Kengo wa Dondo admitted that defense and security matters were the exclusive responsibility of President Mobutu....

The continued military training in the region and the arms trafficking involving people close to President Mobutu are meeting with conflicting reactions in the West. Mr. Derycke speaks of the "arsonist fireman" while former U.S. President Carter believes that it is impossible to indefinitely boycott a president who holds the keys to the region's stability.

Concern is also increasing in Kigali, where the authorities fear the "corridor" the rebels could carve out in the Cibitoke area would serve as a launching pad for attacks against Rwanda itself and note that the expulsion of Tutsis, driven from the Masisi region, is continuing: 970 Zairian nationals of Tutsi origin have crossed the border this week, bringing the total number of expulsions to 11,000.

#### **Burundi: Tutsis Condemn French Suspension of Military Cooperation**

**BR3005114296** *Brussels LA LIBRE BELGIQUE*  
in French 30 May 96 p 6

[Report by Marie-France Cros: "Paris in Firing Line of 'Harsh' Tutsis"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] The most destabilized [area in the Great Lakes region] appears to be Burundi, where tension has increased following several political murders and massacres. Paris, then Brussels, announced the closing of the French school and the Belgian school. On Tuesday [28 May] the French government announced that it was suspending military cooperation with Bujumbura "until a political settlement can put an end to ongoing violence and can lead to national reconciliation." Because "there is as yet no prospect of a reform which would lead to better integration of the nations' components in government institutions, particularly the army." The Tutsi extremists consider this last phrase to be support for their Hutu

counterparts, whose guerillas are calling for unification with the present army, to form a real national army.

The French decision came whilst the United Nations was resuming its efforts to form a multinational force led by one or several of its member states, ready to intervene in Burundi in case of violent upheavals. [passage omitted].

#### **Call for War**

The UN efforts for the expeditionary force aroused disquiet amongst the Tutsi extremists, whose most visible representative, Brother Deo of the SOJEDEM (Youth Solidarity for Defense of Minorities' Rights) militia, issued a press release on 26 May, urging "patriots" to rise against the "preparations for France's recolonization of Burundi" and to "wage war against the nation's enemies."

Whilst promising further instructions "soon," he announced the resumption of the strike he had launched last January, which the army had ended, to demand that Hutu President Ntibantunganya resign and be tried for "high treason." The head of state is accused of "waging war on Burundi" by secretly supporting the Hutu guerillas, who were created by his Frodebu party. Brother Deo denounces a collusion between the party and France, whose intervention "will be accompanied by the desire to complete the Tutsi and non-Frodebu Hutu genocide."

One must bear in mind that the fear of falling victim to a genocide is so strong among Hutus and Tutsis in Burundi, that mass slaughters have been sparked off merely by pamphlets reporting massacres.

#### **Burundi: 1 Killed in Return of Bujumbura Violence** **EA3005200096** *Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale du Burundi Radio in English* 1745 GMT 30 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Word indistinct] violence has resumed in the capital Bujumbura today. An official of the beer processing company, Brarudi, was shot this afternoon at [name indistinct] school, located on the University Avenue. Mr. Terence Ndayakira died some time after at Prince Regent Hospital. The identity of the killer is not yet established.

#### **Burundi: Army Reports 2 Civilians Killed by Hutu Rebels in South**

**AB3005122396** *Paris AFP in French*  
0944 GMT 30 May 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Bujumbura, 30 May (AFP) — Two civilians were killed and one wounded last night in an attack, attributed to Hutu rebels, on the town of



Rutana in southern Burundi near Tanzania, Burundian Army announced today in Bujumbura.

"Security forces intervened and repulsed the assailants," Lieutenant Colonel Minani, Burundian Ministry of Defense spokesman told AFP. The Army is dominated by the Tutsi minority ethnic group. He also pointed out that an attack launched on 28 May by the Hutu rebels on a Tutsi displaced people's camp at Butezi left 61 dead. The latest death toll reported yesterday speaks of 59 dead. [passage omitted]

### **Cameroon**

**Cameroon: Striking Students, Police Clash on Douala University Campus**

*AB3005220696 Paris AFP in French*  
*1811 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Yaounde, 30 May (AFP) — There were clashes in Douala today between striking students demonstrating in the center of the town and security forces who used teargas and truncheons to disperse them, journalists in Cameroon's economic capital stated. Students of the University of Douala went on strike early this week demanding better working conditions. They are also protesting against the "daily racketeering" they are subjected to through "exorbitant charges" for university services.

Since the beginning of this month, students of Yaounde 1 University have been on strike for the same reasons. Police and Gendarmerie antiriot squads have been drafted to the Douala University campus. Police sources say the squads have been posted there at the request of the university authorities.

Yesterday, there were clashes on the campus between the striking students and others who had refused to join in the strike. Lectures were disrupted and lecturers as well students were brutalized. Benches were used to block the entrance to the campus. The geology laboratory was ransacked.

The strike continues despite the call by Cameroonian Prime Minister Simon Achidi Achu on the students to resume lectures and on the university authorities to collect only charges that have been approved by current laws. Early this week, the prime minister also set up a mediating commission comprising striking students and university authorities. The other three universities in the country have not joined in the strike.

### **Central African Republic**

**CAR: Fighting Resumes in Bangui 31 May**

*LD3105114496 Paris France-2 Television Network*  
*in French 1100 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] A late flash: Firing has resumed in Bangui. A group of mutineers of the Central African army reportedly opened fire today in the center of Bangui, while President Patasse is pursuing his talks aimed at forming a government of national unity.

**CAR: 'Several Dozen' Soldiers Fire Shots Near Foreign Ministry**

*AB3105120596 Paris AFP in French*  
*1152 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Translated Text ] Bangui, 31 May (AFP) — A group of mutineers of the Central African Republic Army opened fire in Bangui today while President Ange-Felix Patasse continues his contacts for the formation of a national union government, eyewitnesses pointed out. Several dozen soldiers arrived in the center of the city and began to shoot in the air, causing panic in the streets. Vehicles of the French Army were seen rushing toward the place where the mutineers were. It looked as if their objective was to surround them in order to prevent them from getting to other parts of the city.

The shots took place not far away from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where since yesterday President Patasse has been holding consultations with with political parties, leaders of associations, religious leaders, and representatives of official organizations to form the "broad-based union government" he announced.

**CAR: National Assembly Votes Law Granting Amnesty to Mutineers**

*AB3005201796 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French*  
*1830 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The Central African Republic [CAR]'s National Assembly began its ordinary session in the capital, Bangui, this morning. One of the main points on the agenda was the voting of the amnesty law, which was negotiated between the CAR Government and the mutinous soldiers. The law was finally passed this evening. President Ange-Felix Patasse, who said he has 15 days within which to promulgate it, said that he is eager to promulgate it as soon as possible. Rodrigue Asseyi reports.

[Begin Asseyi recording] It has been done. The mutineers were granted amnesty today. The National Assembly, which is largely dominated by the ruling party,



voted the text. It is now left to President Patasse to promulgate it. The president, however, does not see the inconvenience in promulgating it even today. The voting was smooth. For their part, the mutineers have said that after the amnesty negotiations with the government must continue from tomorrow.

Truly, part of the equation has been solved, but Sergeant Souke, a leader of the mutineers, said he is observing the political scene regarding the appointment of a prime minister and the composition of a future government. He stressed, in no uncertain terms, that the mutiny has not ended. This statement is perceived as a strategy — a psychological warfare.

On the political scene, President Patasse devoted the day to consultations with a view to appointing a new prime minister. He had meetings with the presidential majority, the Central African Democratic Rally, the former single ruling party; the Democratic Council of Opposition Political Parties; labor unions; and the Central African Human Rights League. The president will meet with religious bodies and associations tomorrow. At any rate, by the weekend, the CAR may have a new prime minister. The country's reconstruction depends on this. [end recording]

#### **CAR: Patasse Promulgates Amnesty Law, Minister Gives Details**

*AB3005214196 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French  
1830 GMT 30 May 96*

[Newscast presented by Omer Leonce Remen-Ambia]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Remen-Ambia] We are on the line to Bangui, the Central African Republic [CAR] capital, with Mbeti Maras, minister of justice in charge of law reform. As announced at the beginning of the newscast, CAR President Ange-Felix Patasse, promulgated an amnesty law this evening for the soldiers who began a mutiny nine days ago against his regime. The amnesty law was one of the major concerns — let us say one of the major demands — of the mutineers who recently agreed to return to Kasai Camp in Bangui.

Mr. Minister, good evening. Let us recall that you are live on Africa No. 1. Can you read for us the text of the Amnesty Law promulgated by the head of state after the bill was passed by the National Assembly?

[Maras] Definitely, definitely. I will give a summary and then read the text.

[Remen-Ambia] Okay, do it right now. Mr. Minister, you are live on our radio station.

[Maras] Dear compatriots: In accordance with the solemn pledge made on behalf of the CAR people by

His Excellency the president of the Republic and head of state on 26 May — thus calling to witness national and international opinion — to grant amnesty to our stray children as he described them, I, in my capacity as keeper of the seals and minister of justice in charge of law reform, take the opportunity offered me today, on behalf of the government and our National Assembly, to read out the Amnesty Bill:

Our National Assembly, after examining the bill, passed it into law, and the head of state promulgated it. It reads as follows:

#### **The CAR: Unity, Dignity, Work**

#### **Presidency of the Republic**

Law No. 96020 granting amnesty to the soldiers responsible for the 18-21 April and the 18-20 May mutinies:

The National Assembly has examined and passed an Amnesty Bill. In view of that, the president of the Republic and head of state promulgates the law which reads as follows:

Article No. 1: The offenses committed by soldiers of the CAR Armed Forces from 18 to 20 April and from 18 to 20 May following a mutiny have been amnestied. The amnesty will take effect when the perpetrators of the offenses return to their barracks and hand over arms, ammunition, vehicles, and equipment on the instructions of the civilian and military authorities.

Article 2: The following people are not affected by the present amnesty law. They are: Soldiers who do not return to the barracks; those who refuse to hand over arms or who conceal them or who try to conceal arms, ammunition, vehicles, and equipment.

Others are those who refuse or attempt to refuse to obey the instructions given by the civilian or military authorities.

The rest are those who engaged in or tried to engage voluntarily in theft, looting, arson, voluntary destruction, and sabotage; those who committed or tried to commit murder and rape, who beat or tried to beat people, or who caused injuries, used violence or tried to use violence and threats or who engaged any other violation of physical or moral integrity of people or property.

Also excluded from the amnesty are those who voluntarily incited, helped, and assisted in crime by providing means, giving orders, or inciting others to commit crimes or offenses [word indistinct] as well as accomplices, joint perpetrators, and receivers, whether civilian or military.

Article 3: The present law is not detrimental to third party interests.

Article 4: The present law does not affect soldiers sentenced to jail terms or prosecuted for acts different from the mutiny mentioned in Article 1.

Article 5: The effects of the present law will be annulled in the case of a second offense.

Article 6: The present law, which takes effect on the day of its signature, will be registered and published in the Official Gazette.

Issued in Bangui on 30 May 1996  
[Signed] Ange-Felix Patasse

[Remen-Ambia] Mr. Minister, you are live on Africa No. 1. Maybe one last question before the repeat of our headlines. You have just said that the amnesty law does not apply to soldiers who have refused to hand over their arms or who have tried to hide them. So, are you sure, I mean, are there actually any mutineers who have reportedly kept their arms with them or who have reportedly refused to hand them over?

It seems that our question was not heard. The line between Bangui and Libreville, the Gabonese capital, is not very very good.

#### CAR: President Patasse Gives Profile of Future Prime Minister

AB3005184396 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French  
1215 GMT 30 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Concerning the appointment of a new Central African Republic [CAR] prime minister, President Patasse, who is expected to meet leaders of political parties this afternoon, was interviewed by foreign correspondents this morning during which he outlined the profile of the future prime minister. Let us listen to him.

[Begin recording] [Patasse] I will choose a prime minister who would not be from a political party. I am thus making a great sacrifice, because the Movement for the Liberation of the Central African People [MLPC] won the elections, and it is normal for the prime minister to come from the MLPC. It is like that in all democratic systems. However, (as the situation demands), I have asked my party to accept this additional sacrifice and it has agreed. We have a majority in parliament. I think the problem will be the person to choose.

[Unidentified correspondent] There is a lot of talk about the CAR ambassador to France, Jean-Paul Ngoupande.

[Patasse] You know, I do not like speculation. If his profile suits me I will appoint him; if it does not I will not appoint him, and if there are other Central Africans whose profiles suit me I will appoint them. Therefore,

concerning this, I have quite a lot of room to make a choice. [end recording]

[Announcer] On his part, Gabriel Koyambounou, the current prime minister, sees no inconvenience in being asked to assume other duties. He spoke to Rodrigues Asseyi.

[Begin recording] [Koyambounou] My party entrusted me with a mission and I accomplished it to the best of my abilities. If, now, because of these exceptional events, it is felt that the political scene must change, and that for some criteria or reasons of national interest I must be assigned to other duties, I am an activist and I am prepared to accept such an assignment. I am first and foremost a technocrat, and I will not be bothered at all if, for reasons of national interest, someone else is chosen.

[Asseyi] Now, the issue at hand is the profile of the new prime minister. Who could replace you today? Do you have an idea of who this person should be?

[Koyambounou] An identikit picture of the new prime minister would be: He should, in theory, not belong to a political faction, and should be able to play the role of a unifier. [end recording]

#### CAR: Patasse—Future PM Not To Come From Political Party

LD3005135396 Paris Radio France International  
in French 1230 GMT 30 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Central African Republic President Ange-Felix Patasse started as planned the series of consultations for forming a government of national unity. He received this morning representatives from the opposition and a number of associations. Let us listen to our special correspondent Jean-Jacques Louarne:

[Louarne] Ange-Felix Patasse held talks this morning with representatives from the civil society and the grouping of opposition parties [Codepo: Collectif des Partis d'Opposition].

Nothing has leaked yet from those talks. In an interview to Radio France Internationale, President Patasse said this morning that the future prime minister would not be a member of a political party. Ange-Felix Patasse said: I am thus making a great sacrifice because my party has a majority of seats at the national assembly.

Several Central African Republic personalities have let it be known that they were available for the post of prime minister. One of these personalities said: I call on the president to make the appointment on a large and sincere basis according to a real consensus.



The Codepo said that it wanted to submit this morning a list of names to President Patasse. Abel Goumba, a leader of the Codepo, said that President Patasse would have to choose from that list.

The formation of the government of national unity will be known by Saturday [1 June] or Sunday.

### Rwanda

#### Rwanda: 2 Genocide Suspects Plead Not Guilty

EA3005215296 Kigali Radio Rwanda in French  
1800 GMT 30 May 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The first two suspects who appeared before the International Tribunal for Rwanda based in Arusha, Georges Rutaganda and Jean-Paul Akayezu, have both pleaded not guilty. The first has eight charges against him and the second, 12 charges.

The trial of Rutaganda, a former militia leader, was postponed to 3 October after an initial appearance which lasted less than 15 minutes. The charges against Rutaganda are mainly genocide, crimes against humanity, murder and violation of [word indistinct] Article Three of the Geneva Conventions. Rutaganda, who was represented by the Belgian lawyer Luc de Temerman answered no to all the questions of the presiding judge, Laiti Kama from Senegal. Mr. Temerman, who also represents other genocide suspects, requested a Rwandan visa so that he can gather testimonies in person.

Jean-Paul Akayezu, former burgomaster for Taba Commune, who is charged with genocide, crimes against humanity, murder, torture, cruelty, and extermination, also pleaded not guilty, rejecting all the charges in one go. His trial was postponed to 19 September, in agreement with his lawyer Johann Scharz, a Belgian lawyer who said that his client wants his case to be dealt with as soon as possible. [passage omitted]

### Zaire

#### Zaire: Tensions Rise as Rwandan Refugees Threaten Locals

LD3005122996 Paris Radio France International  
in French 0730 GMT 30 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The United Nations is concerned over events in eastern Zaire where some communities

are finding it really difficult to live together. Assane Diop reports:

[Diop, in studio] That's right. Things have deteriorated between the 700,000 Rwandan Hutu refugees in Goma and the 65,000 Zairean locals in Masisi, a region in eastern Zaire.

The Nyanga [as heard; possibly means Yanga], Nande, Unde, and Banyarwanda [ethnic groups] have gradually been dispossessed of their land by Rwandan Hutu groups who settled there a long time ago. The squatters are reportedly assisted by Hutu refugees belonging to the former armed forces and the former Rwandan militias [Interahamwe] who arrived in Zaire in 1994. These extremists reportedly resort to violence on a frequent basis to chase away Zairean locals from their territory. It is believed that, in the long run, they aim to turn Masisi into a Hutuland.

Because of ethnic strife, the Banyarwanda — a Zairean ethnic group comprising about 3,000 members — are reported to be their main target. Some 100 Banyarwanda have allegedly been slaughtered recently.

As a result of insecurity and the inaction of the Zairean armed forces, locals of all ethnic groups are fleeing from Masisi without taking anything with them.

The heavy task of the UN mission, which is expected in Kinshasa tomorrow, 31 May, and that includes representatives of the UNDP [United Nations Development Programme], UNICEF, WFP [World Food Program], and UNHCR [UN Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees] after President Mobutu gave them the green light in Geneva last week, will be to assess emergency rescue operations for displaced people and to recommend solutions to safeguard their security.



## Somalia

### Somalia: Aidid Receives Marehan, Jidwak Clan Delegations

EA2905194196 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of the Masses of the Somali Republic in Somali 1400 GMT 29 May 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid, the president of the Republic of Somalia, today met a Marehan clan delegation currently visiting Mogadishu. The members of the delegation expressed gratitude for the warm welcome in Mogadishu [words indistinct] and the desire to convey to the Marehan community the nine articles they had agreed with the president. They clarified that they are loyal to the government and will report to the Jubbada Hoose, Gedo, and (Caabudwaaq) people on the various activities of the government, and that they will also explain to them the successive victories achieved by the government.

Similarly, Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid, the president of the Republic of Somalia, met in his office today a delegation from the Jidwak clan from the Jubbada Hoose and Jubbada Dhexe Region. The delegation members expressed satisfaction with their visit, and with the meeting with the president of the government and its members. They thanked them for the warm welcome accorded to them. They also expressed total support for the Government of the Republic of Somalia and said they will participate in various programs for developing the country, and develop good relations with the officers, government Army, and regional officials in defending the dignity, flag, religion, and honor of the Somali people. [passage omitted]

## Tanzania

### Tanzania: Government Outlines Economic Plans for 1996-97

EA3005193796 Dar es Salaam Radio Tanzania Network in Swahili 1300 GMT 30 May 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The government has said that in the next financial year it will concentrate on social services and the economic sector. Mr. Daniel Yona, minister of state in the office of the president in charge of planning, said this today when he presented a (?preliminary) report on the budget for the 1996-1997 period. Mr. Yona said that in next year's budget, the economic services sector will get 55 percent of the total money available, and social services will receive 32 percent, the principal amount of which — 37 percent — will be received by the economic sector, and the social services sector will get 35 percent. [sentence as heard] He said the increased cash for the sector demonstrates

the government's intention to take action on policies aimed at improving the social services.

Mr. Yona also said that the government, in determining its income and expenditure, reduced projects from 1,500 in the 1994-1995 period to 1,300 for the 1996-1997 period. He said the projects that have been withdrawn are those of a business nature which can be fulfilled commercially or by public corporations or private institutions.

On the growth of the economy, Minister Yona said the country's economy has grown by 3.9 percent which is 1.1 percent short of the targeted 5 percent growth that had been estimated. However, the increase is more than 3.0 percent of the economic growth which occurred during the 1994-1995 period.

## Uganda

### Uganda: Army Reports 'Imminent' Rebel Invasion From Sudan

EA2905180696 Kampala Radio Uganda Network in English 29 May 96 p 1

[Article by Pelgrine Otunga and James Oweka: "Kony Rebels Plan Attack"]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Another rebel invasion from Sudan is imminent, the Army told Gulu parliamentary candidates on Monday [27 May]. A total of 54 houses were burned by Kony rebels at Coope Village, eight miles from Gulu Town.

Fourth Division Intelligence Commander, Major Charles Angina, confirmed the Army had received reports about the impending invasion. Answering the candidates and Gulu municipal officials, Major Angina said the major rebel threats were landmines and ambushes he said were difficult to deal with unless civilians cooperate with government troops. [passage omitted]

During the weekend raid, the rebels warned residents they should live at least two miles away from the main road, because they (rebels) would soon launch an offensive on UPDF [Uganda People's Defense Force]. The rebels said they were to use heavy weapons which are likely to affect life by the roadside. [passage omitted]

### Uganda: West Nile Front Rebels Launch 'Major Offensive' From Sudan

AB3005214796 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 30 May 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It looks as though rebels of the West Nile Bank Front have launched a major

offensive in northern Uganda. Yesterday, there were reports of bands of rebels amounting to some 2,000 men crossing into Uganda from Sudan. They were being met by government forces, who were claiming a string of successes in battles with the insurgents. There have been more clashes, and again it seems the Army is getting the best of it. From Gulu, in northern Uganda, Anna Bosolo reports.

[Begin Bosolo recording] At 6:15 this morning, a group of about 300 West Nile Bank Front rebels crossed from Sudan and attacked the UPDF [Uganda People's Defense Force] defense at (Kifuwazi), about 2.5 km from the Sudanese border, in a two-hour battle that left 20 rebels dead. The rebels then dispersed in the direction of Zaire. When I visited (Kifuwazi) at midday, one building in the defense was still smoking. The body of a young boy rebel, half-naked, lay sprawled on the path, his arms stretched out as if crucified. Further along in the bush was a dollop of brains, which had emptied from a rebel's skull. The trees bore (?wide) scars from machine gunfire. A young goat, shot in the crossfire and then bandaged by a Ugandan soldier, ran bleating into a house.

The rebels were still only a few kilometers away, and there was heavy shelling from Sudan, which was returned by the Ugandan Army. This was to provide cover as another group of about 200 rebels tried to attack the Ugandan border town of Oraba. The fighting was close enough for the government soldiers I was with to advise me to cover my white T-shirt, which stood out like a beacon against the tall grass. The rebels were fought back into Sudan at around 5 o'clock although Sudanese and Ugandan troops continued to shell each other across the border.

Since the rebels invaded last Tuesday [28 May], several prisoners-of-war have been captured. One 18-year-old boy, who joined the rebels in March, was unable to explain to me what they were fighting for. However, he said that the Sudanese Government no longer wanted them based on their territory although they were also told that Sudanese troops would back them up once they had secured territory inside Uganda. He also said that before leaving Sudan to attack Uganda, they were played a six-hour-long taped message allegedly from deposed President Idi Amin. In the message, the rebels were told that Museveni had failed to develop West Nile. They were also told that other rebel groups, specifically the Lord's Resistance Army, were cooperating to overthrow the government, and they were encouraged that it would only need 20 men to overthrow [the] Kampala [Government]. [end recording]

**Uganda: Oris Rebels Attack UPDF Forces at Munodo; 26 Killed**

EA3005153096 Kampala THE NEW VISION  
in English 30 May 96 p 1

[Article by Pelegrine Otonga: "Col Oris Rebels Blow Up Bridge"]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Twenty-six Oris rebels were killed yesterday when some 400 of them attacked the UPDF [Uganda People's Defense Force] defense at Munodo, six miles from Keri in Koboko. The rebels also blew part of Dranya Bridge on the Iru River near Nyangilia, six miles on the Koboko-Arua road after ambushing a Red Cross vehicle, said Captain Patrick Kiyingi, who pursued the group to Gadi Hills, where there was a battle on Tuesday [28 May].

The deputy 4th Division commander, Colonel James Kazini, confirmed that about 2,000 rebels crossed into Uganda from Kaya to Oraba and Keri on the Zaire border with Uganda on Tuesday. He said the UPDF successfully repulsed the rebel attacks. He said six rebels have been taken prisoner-of-war and 15 landmines, 2 RPGs [rocket-propelled grenades], 14 SMGs [sub-machine guns], one 82mm mortar, 19 mortar shells, three anti-aircraft guns and Sudanese military uniforms were recovered.

When THE NEW VISION visited Munodo, eight half-naked bodies lay about 50 metres from the UPDF defense. Another 17 bodies were lying one and a half miles away. The brigade commander 401 said more bodies were still being found as the Army pursued the rebels. At 1630, heavy artillery gunfire was heard three miles away from Monodo. [passage omitted]

An official of chief administrative office told THE NEW VISION that a team from the Ministry of Works in Arua was quickly dispatched to Koboko to start work on the blown bridge. By late Tuesday, some vehicles from Koboko travelling to Arua were able to cross a makeshift bridge at Dranya.

Last month, Oris rebels made two attacks in Arua District during which the rebels lost 10 men and a big quantity of arms and ammunitions.

**Uganda: Troops Shell Sudan; Idi Amin Addresses Rebels Via Recording**

EA3105111096 Kampala THE NEW VISION  
in English 31 May 96 p 1

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Sudanese and Ugandan troops yesterday exchanged long range artillery fire across their borders as fierce battles raged on between the UPDF and the Oris rebels at Oraba trading center.

Fourth Division Deputy Commander Colonel James Kazini, said they were forced to hit the Sudanese defense at Kaya because they were not only offering "cover fire" for the rebel WBNF [West Nile Bank Front] but were also targeting on UPDF positions at Keri and Kifwa Wazi.

Yesterday 26 more rebels were killed when their group, estimated at 300, attacked the UPDF defense at Kifwa Wazi, a few meters from the Zairean border from where the rebels entered. Kifwa Wazi is three miles from Oraba where another group of rebels engaged the UPDF unit in a battle that began at 6.15 am and ended at 4.40 pm.

A radio message from the Oraba trading center monitored from Keri, six miles from Koboko, said the rebels had been repulsed across river Dabara. Eight rebels were confirmed dead and more bodies were expected, it said.

The radio message had not communicated about any casualty on the Ugandan side but the New Vision saw

at least six wounded soldiers transported on a military jeep to Keri .

Meanwhile, a rebel captive, Mohamed Chandiga, has said former dictator Idi Amin Dada appealed to the WBNF rebels not to despair when they capture Oraba and Keri. He said Amin's message was on recorded tapes that lasted four hours. It was played for them from their base at Ajikwa near Morobo on Tuesday night before they crossed into Uganda. [passage omitted]

He said Amin, who spoke in Kakwa, Lugbara and Kiswahili, assured them that Kony rebels and other groups inside Uganda have cooperated with him to overthrow Yoweri Museveni. It [as published] did not name the other groups, but said Kampala is going to be taken over by only 20 men from the groups. [passage omitted]



# **South Africa: Democratic Party Wins in 'Affluent' Bishopscourt Ward**

*MB3105063396 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
0346 GMT 31 May 96*

[Report by Dirk van Zyl]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town May 31 SAPA — Shortly before daybreak on Friday (31 May) it was apparent that the National Party (NP) was heading for victory in five of the six sub-structures of the Cape Metropole in Wednesday's Western Cape local government election.

The NP had on Thursday already wrapped up the major share of the votes in the province's rural areas.

With results having trickled in through the night, the ward tally in the Metropole at 5.30 AM on Friday, as made available at the central provincial election control centre, was:

- Eastern sub-structure (24 wards): NP 13, ANC 5;
- Central (44 wards): ANC 19, NP 9, DP 3;
- Southern (22): NP 7, ANC 1;
- Northern (18): NP 17, ANC 1;
- Tygerberg (44): NP 18, ANC 1; and
- Helderberg (20): ANC 9.

No further results had come through at the provincial control centre for Helderberg, but a senior ANC source said the NP had pipped his party by one ward in that sub-structure, with the DP [Democratic Party] having won one ward.

The results of the sprawling Khayelitsha township in the Tygerberg sub-structure, where the ANC has strong support, were also still outstanding but indications were the NP would win overall control of the sub-structure.

The results of the proportional votes had also not yet been finalised, but all indications were the NP's majority would also manifest itself there.

The ANC was still hopeful early on Friday that it could win the Central sub-structure — the biggest in terms of voter numbers.

But the ANC suffered a severe disappointment when its high-profile candidate Revel Fox came a poor third in the affluent Bishopscourt/Newlands/upper Rondebosch ward in the Central sub-structure, with the Democratic Party beating the NP for first place. Fox had been personally endorsed by President Nelson Mandela, a voter in the ward.

The DP's victory there was one of the few bright spots for the party, which saw its support in its traditional strongholds in Cape Town's southern suburbs shifting dramatically to the NP.

The DP had had high hopes of winning control of the Southern sub-structure.

A feature of the results has been the dismal performance of the smaller parties — the DP, Freedom Front, Conservative Party, Pan-Africanist Congress and African Christian Democratic Party — and independents.

Voters have clearly polarised between the NP and ANC.

The final result is expected later on Friday.

Western Cape local government MEC [member of the Executive Council] Peter Marais said on Thursday afternoon he believed all the results could be known by mid-day.

But provincial polling co-ordinator Joppa le Roux said the final picture may only emerge by Saturday.

# **South Africa: NP Wins Majority in 3 of 6 Metropole Substructures**

*MB3105062096 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 0530 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The National Party (NP) has outright majorities in three of the six substructures in the Western Cape metropole. However, the crucial Central and Tygerberg areas are still undecided. The latest from Tygerberg — the NP 18 seats, the ANC four; and the latest from Central, ANC 17, the NP seven.

# **South Africa: NP Wins 'Landslide Victory' in Cape Northern Substructure**

*MB3005112896 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1124 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town May 30 SAPA — The National Party (NP) had won a "landslide victory" in the Cape metro's Northern substructure, returning officer Pieter Gerber said on Thursday (30 May). Northern was the only substructure to have counted through the night after close of polls on Wednesday. Details of the polling will be released later.

# **South Africa: National Party Wins in Western Cape Southern Substructure**

*MB3105104196 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1017 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town May 31 SAPA — The National Party (NP) has won outright control of the Southern sub-structure in the Cape metropole local government elections. The party has taken 18 of the 22 ward seats and 56.37 percent of the proportional representation vote.

The ANC won two ward seats, the DP [Democratic Party] one and an NP-supporting Independent one. The ANC secured 19.02 percent of the proportional vote. It was not yet clear how many proportional seats would be allocated to each party.

**South Africa: NP—Rural Landslide Victory Means Western Cape Control**

*MB3005204996 Johannesburg SABC 1 Television Network in English 2000 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Counting of votes in Khayelitsha is still being delayed. Negotiations are under way to resolve a dispute over the employment and payment of local election officials, which has prevented the process from getting under way. All parties have agreed in principle that counting should begin tonight.

Meanwhile, the National Party [NP] says its landslide victory in the rural areas has given them control over the Western Cape, even in areas where the ANC gained votes.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified correspondent] People in rural areas have given a big Yes to the NP. With results still outstanding for Breede River, the NP now has about 58 percent support for the other six regional councils. ANC support in these councils stands at just over 33 percent, with independent and other parties at around 8 percent.

[NP spokesman Pieter Marais, in Afrikaans] It was actually a motion of no confidence in the ANC.

[Correspondent] Western Cape NP leader Dawie de Villiers tonight said it was significant that the NP also won in the DP [Democratic Party] stronghold of Constantia. He said the fact that the NP won 17 of the 18 wards in the northern substructure was a sign that the party was in tune with the voters.

[De Villiers] There's a great deal of uncertainty presently about the ANC government. That has all contributed to this result.

[Correspondent] But he expects strong competition from other metropolitan substructures, especially central. We tried to get Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel's reaction, but he refused to talk to the SABC after his earlier allegations about biased reporting by what he called the ANC-TV.

[Kriel, in Afrikaans] Of course, you know you are guilty. [end recording]

**South Africa: ANC 'Encouraged' by Gains Made in Rural Farm Votes**

*MB3005114496 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1100 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The National Party [NP] has won the local election in nine of the Western Cape rural councils where results have been announced so far. The party has the most seats in another four. Votes from the other Transitional Representative Councils [TRCs] are

still being counted. The National Party has also won 17 of the 18 wards in the northern substructure of the Cape metropole counted so far.

Western Cape Local Government Minister Peter Marais of the NP said his party had done extremely well in the rural areas, and was likely to sweep the remaining TRCs. However, ANC Spokesperson [Keren Dugmore] said his party was encouraged by some of the rural results which showed it had made significant gains on the nine percent of farm votes it won in the 1994 general election.

A dispute was declared in the eastern substructure after a ballot box was found opened. Maxine Greeff reports:

[Greeff] The dispute was declared by the National Party and the Freedom Front after a ballot box from the Bloekombos Squatter Camp was found opened. All the ballot boxes were guarded by the police through the night. They say they don't think the box was tampered with, but rather that there was a lack of knowledge on how the sealing should be done properly. The dispute is being dealt with by officials at present. Other than this, counting is progressing smoothly.

**South Africa: 'Colored Vote' Said 'Decisive Factor' in NP West Cape Success**

*MB3105105696 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1000 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The strong showing of the National Party [NP] in the Western Cape local government elections had raised the question of what went wrong for the ANC. Although the final results are not yet out, the NP has captured at least four of the six metropolitan substructures. Western Cape Political Analyst [Robert Mobb] says there are several reasons for the outcome:

[Begin Mobb recording] The key decisive factor was obviously the Colored vote, and here the National Party propaganda machine seems to have been successful to paint the ANC as not the home for their interests, and their values, and painting them as being marginalized. The ANC also seems to have gone about this election campaign completely in the wrong way by increasing the petrol price twice, interest hikes have been increased twice, and also the way they handled the education crisis, which again the NP could exploit at their expense, as the election result shows, particularly in your predominantly Colored wards. [sentence as heard]. [end recording]



### **South Africa: ANC Inquires About Black Voters Turned Away at Polls**

*MB3005160496 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1400 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The ANC says it wants to know how many voters were turned away at polling stations in Cape Town's black areas yesterday because their names did not appear on the roll. The ANC representative on the multi-party liaison committee, (Cameron Dugmore), says his party also wants to know when the computers arrived at voting stations in the Tigerberg and central substructures. He said the delay in installing the computers had made it difficult to check whether names were on the master roll.

### **South Africa: Task Group—West Cape Elections 'Largely Successful'**

*MB3105085096 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0830 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Durban May 31 SAPA — The multi-party presidential task group, appointed earlier this year to oversee local government elections in KwaZulu/Natal, on Friday [31 May] said Western Cape elections had been largely successful despite problems at some polling stations.

"Elections in the Western Cape went rather well. There were problems here and there," task group chairman and Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Chris Fisser told a media briefing in Durban.

He said the task group was determined to make elections in KwaZulu/Natal equally successful. "We will try to see as far as possible that (problems experienced in the Western Cape) can be avoided here," Fisser said.

KwaZulu/Natal elections were postponed until June 26 following the submission of a task group report to President Nelson Mandela last month.

### **South Africa: National Party's Opposition Machinery Swings 'Into Gear'**

*MB3005135996 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 30 May 96 p 10*

[Report by Moadli Makhanya]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Only a few weeks after the National Party (NP) announced its intentions to pull out of the Government of National Unity, its opposition machinery has swung into gear.

Almost on a daily basis over the past three weeks, the NP has been meting out severe criticism of the ANC, slamming the ruling party over privatisation, the new

Cabinet appointments, the death penalty and various other governmental actions.

The NP's newly appointed director of information, Dr Johann Steenkamp, has taken over from Deputy Secretary-General Marthinus van Schalkwyk as the organisation's main spokesman. The NP has also hired former Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development ministry spokesman Izak Retief, who followed Roelf Meyer out of government.

Keen to position itself ahead of the Democratic Party as the ANC's arch critic, the NP has not spared President Nelson Mandela in its criticism.

Following Mandela's announcement of new Cabinet ministers and deputies, the NP cautiously welcomed the newcomers but gave warning that it would be watching them very closely. The party was, however, less welcoming of Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale's recent cabinet appointments, accusing Sexwale of filling his cabinet with communists.

The main focus of the NP's brickbats has been on economic matters, and the party has tried to blame the country's economic crises on the ANC's close relationship with COSATU (Congress of South African Trade Unions) and the South African Communist Party. The NP has also been playing up apparent differences between Mandela's pronouncements on privatisation and COSATU's statement on the issue.

This week, the NP hit out at Mandela's stance on the death penalty. Responding to Mandela's statement that the NP's vociferous demands for the return of the death penalty were racially motivated, the NP said: "The vast majority of the victims of murder and rape are black. Greater penalties for such crimes will, therefore be to the benefit of blacks in particular. Apparently Mr Mandela could not care less."

The party also cast doubt on Mandela's commitment to nation building. "President Mandela's so-called infallibility increasingly lets him down. The NP questions his real commitment to nation building across racial divisions...Mandela undermines his image as statesman and nation-builder by making racist statements that also violate the truth," said the NP.

### **South Africa: SABTA Threatens To Boycott KwaZulu/Natal Elections in Jun**

*MB3005140296 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1100 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The South African Black Taxi Association (SABTA) in KwaZulu/Natal has threatened not to vote in the local elections next month if their demands are not met. SABTA is demanding representation



on the task team established last year to address problems in the taxi industry. SABTA Provincial Chairman (Sipho Cele) says a presidential advisory committee was established earlier this year to pave the way for the association to be represented on the task team. Mr. (Cele) says his association will not be bound by the resolutions taken by the team concerning operating certificates.

**South Africa: Elections Task Group Praises 'Decline' in KwaZulu Conflict**

*MB3105100396 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0956 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Durban May 31 SAPA — KwaZulu/Natal appears set for peaceful local government elections following a "dramatic decline" in the political temperature in the province, the multi-party presidential election task group said on Friday [31 May].

Addressing a media briefing in Durban, task group chairman and Provincial Affairs Minister Chris Fismar said recent peace initiatives in the province could further defuse potential conflict over the next few weeks.

"The task group applauds the initiative taken by the African National Congress and the Inkatha Freedom Party to display much-required leadership in taking concrete steps towards normalising the political atmosphere in the province," he said.

Fismar's comments follow a landmark sitting of the provincial legislature on Thursday, when MPLs (members of the provincial legislature) from across the political spectrum denounced violence and vowed to turn "warlords" into "peacelords".

The peace drive is being spearheaded by the provincial executive council. Fismar said on Friday recent security force reports also suggested the province was on the mend. "We don't say there will be no incidents at all. We don't attempt to portray that we have arrived in paradise...but the circumstances have improved (so much) that we can look forward to elections," he said.

Task group member and ANC provincial local government spokesman Dr Mike Sutcliffe said the recent political calm vindicated the government's decision to postpone KwaZulu/Natal elections until June 26. "If nothing else this one-month postponement has brought about a sense of determination to sort out this problem of violence," Sutcliffe said.

The task group was set up in mid-April to oversee the KwaZulu/Natal election process and to ensure that the polls were not marred by violence.

Task group members will continue to meet every week until elections have been completed.

IFP (Inkatha Freedom Party) local government spokesman and KwaZulu/Natal local government MEC (member of the Executive Council) Peter Miller said the recent peace initiatives were a welcome relief to the

"battle-weary" province. "I'm glad that something has happened which justifies that (election) postponement," Miller said.

Political leaders needed to support every peace initiative.

"(The province) should be given the chance to turn all its energy towards constructive activity".

Miller also outlined plans to increase the size of election tribunals. Membership would be increased from one to three people, who would serve on a full-time basis.

"Contraventions of the (election) Code of Conduct, which is applicable to all registered parties and candidates, will be dealt with quickly and firmly," the task group said in a statement.

The task group had also finalised a security plan which was already being implemented, he said.

Fismar said: "Arrangements have been made for the deployment of large numbers of security staff, both police and South African National Defence Force, including from outside the province."

About 4,000 additional police personnel and up to six additional SANDF (South African National Defense Force) companies would be made available, security officers told Friday's media briefing.

**South Africa: Temporary Radio Station To Broadcast on KwaZulu Elections**

*MB3105105596 Johannesburg Saffm Radio Network in English 1000 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] It is reported that a temporary new radio station to broadcast primarily on the community elections in KwaZulu/Natal is scheduled to begin broadcasting from Durban on Monday [3 June]. The Durban Metro Council said the station, called Radio Vote, or Radio Voter, would broadcast in English and Zulu for the communications department of Durban Metro and Central Councils. The station would provide news, views, and the latest information on all aspects of the local government elections. The station would also broadcast the results of the poll as they came to hand.

**South Africa: Premier Phosa Denies Calling Journalists 'Bastards'**

*MB3005181796 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1342 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] CAPE TOWN May 30 SAPA — Mpumalanga premier Mathews Phosa has denied that he publicly labelled all journalists as "bastards", the African National Congress said on Thursday [30 May].

Phosa was quoted as telling delegates at a business conference in Swaziland on Wednesday that journalists were "bastards" who made money on the activities of others.

ANC national spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said the premier had seen the report from a regional news agency and that it was his understanding that "the comment had been taken out of context completely".

"The ANC sympathises with all members of the media who may have been misled into believing the disparaging comments attributed to Mr Phosa. We remain committed to protecting the independence of the media to the hilt."

Phosa had in fact been replying to a question from a delegate on why journalists seldom co-operated with government initiatives and instead highlighted only negative developments, Mamoepa said.

"The premier said the media had a role to play in a democracy even though other people may not find the media's rights as palatable and in that context they would therefore label it in that unfortunate term. That, however, is a view he does not share."

There could never be any democracy without a vibrant critical independent media. A right that the ANC had fought for and ensured that it was enshrined in the constitution, Mamoepa said.

Phosa was committed to the ANC's standpoint, he said.

#### **South Africa: Mpumalanga Premier Calls For Adapted Privatization**

*MB3005111896 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Netwo \* in English 1000 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mpumalanga Premier Mathews Phosa says he supports President Nelson Mandela and COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions] General Secretary Sam Shilowa on the issue surrounding privatization of state assets. Mr. Phosa has told Radio News that South Africans should take a look at the international world where privatization has worked, and adapt methods to fit the South African situation.

He says there is a need to assure unions and workers that they will not lose their jobs, salaries and pensions, and that there will be no retrenchments in the privatization process. Premier Phosa says that with unemployment at 40 percent, there is a need for economic growth to create work opportunities, and privatization could be one way of achieving that growth. He says all must concede the fact that governments are not businesses, and therefore cannot run businesses.

#### **South Africa: ANC NEC Reportedly Rejects Mbeki Growth, Development Plan**

*MB3005161196 Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans 22 May 96 p 1*

[Report by Jan de Lange]

[FBIS Translated Text] BEELD can reveal exclusively today that the ANC's National Executive Committee (NEC) has rejected Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's Growth and Development Strategy (GDS), and decided that it will not be released as an official policy document at this stage.

Instead, the government will rely on other policy declarations for its economic development policy, and the report of the Labor Market Commission, due to be published at the end of June, will play an important role. The GDS could become government policy at a later stage, but for the time being, it has been moved to the back burner. The GDS document led to a split between moderates and leftists in the ANC.

Labor Minister Tito Mboweni and Environment and Tourism Minister-designate Dr. Pallo Jordan were two of the main opponents of the plan during its discussion by the NEC two weeks ago. BEELD has been reliably informed that Dr. Jordan labelled the document "too Thatcheristic." Other complaints were that the GDS drew attention away from the Reconstruction and Development Program [RDP].

Just this last weekend, Trade and Industry Minister Alec Erwin promised that the government was close to announcing a comprehensive economic growth plan. However, he and Trade and Industry Minister [as published] Trevor Manuel were not present at the NEC meeting where the GDS was shot down. They were apparently not informed about the NEC decision.

In February this year the GDS was endorsed by Mr. Mbeki as a means by which the country could achieve a growth rate of six percent by the turn of the century, and create 500,000 new jobs annually. Mr. Mbeki promised that the strategy to produce these goals would be unveiled by the end of April.

The Nedlac [National Economic Development and Labor Council] secretariat was also informed that, in ongoing efforts to achieve a social contract between government, business, and labor, this document would form the basis of the government's submission at Nedlac.

At the last meeting of Nedlac's executive council on 25 April, Mr. Mboweni stated that the government would not be submitting any comprehensive growth plan, because the RDP [Reconstruction and Development Program] was its growth plan. However, the RDP is



a strategy for expenditure, whereas the GDS is an economic development program. This distinction also led to considerable debate in the NEC.

Mr. Moses Ngoasheng, economic adviser to Mr. Mbeki and co-chairman of the Labor Market Commission, said in an interview last week that the elements of economic policy are already in place. These include trade liberalization, small business development, and tariff reform. Labor relations reform is already under way at Nedlac and the Labor Market Commission. In addition, the Reserve Bank and the Department of Trade and Industry are working on a program for the lifting of exchange controls.

**South Africa: Hanekom—Land Reform, Restitution Crucial to Stability**

*MB3005111996 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 1000 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Land Affairs Minister Derek Hanekom says land reform and restitution are crucial in creating socio-economic stability in South Africa. Addressing a media briefing in Johannesburg today, Mr. Hanekom said his department viewed land restitution as the first priority in addressing the land crisis in the country. He said talks were underway with farmers and land owners to contribute land. He said that if farmers and land owners were not willing to contribute land, a system of expropriation would have to be adopted as a last resort.

**South Africa: 600 Chemical Workers Dismissed Over Strikes**

*MB3005183396 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1427 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] JOHANNESBURG May 30 SAPA — About 600 chemical workers had been dismissed following national strikes on April 16 and May 23. Chemical Workers' Industrial Union general secretary Muzi Buthelezi said on Thursday [30 May].

The first strike was in support of the union's centralised bargaining demands and the second for the reinstatement of workers dismissed in the first strike, he told a media briefing.

Employers had obtained a national interdict against workers in the second strike, but it had come too late for the union to call it off. He said it was clear employers were now adopting a harder line against workers involved in industrial action.

The union was demanding the immediate reinstatement of all dismissed workers.

"Failure to comply by employers may lead to further national strike actions," Buthelezi said. The union was also demanding disciplinary warnings against workers be withdrawn and criminal charges dropped.

From Monday workers would stage demonstrations, factory occupations and "blacking" actions were being developed against companies that dismissed workers. Further action would be decided by the national executive on June 12, he said.

**South Africa: Gasoline Price Increases by 13 Cents Per Liter 5 Jun**

*MB3105072296 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 0600 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The price of petrol is due to increase to close to R 2.20 [rands] a liter. The Central Energy Fund has announced that from next Wednesday [5 June] petrol is to go up by 13 cents a liter. The price of diesel will go up by 5 cents, and paraffin by 4 cents. The petrol price increase is the second in as many months. Earlier this month it was increased by 14 cents a liter. Transnet [Public Transportation Company] official [Mike Schuster] is quoted as saying the inland petrol price can be expected to stay at about R2.19 for the most of June and July, but a reduction is possible in August.

**South Africa: Consumer Council, Others React to Gasoline Price Increase**

*MB3105093396 Johannesburg SAfm Radio Network in English 0900 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The Consumer Council says the 13 cents a liter increase in the petrol price will have a devastating effect on consumer spending patterns. The increase will take effect from next Wednesday [5 June]. Consumer Council Director Inna Wilkin said it would create a ripple effect on all commodity prices. She condemned the increase and said an increase in inflation rate was inevitable.

Meanwhile the Automobile Association [AA] has expressed grave concern about the increase, but it says it is mindful of the fact that this is directly related to the poor rand-dollar exchange rate, and international crude oil prices. The AA said in a statement that it was of the opinion that the opportunity once again presented itself to revisit the whole question surrounding the deregulation of the oil industry as a matter of urgency. It said that only in a deregulated market could the motorist reap any benefit from economies of scale that such a market driven industry would bring. The petrol price increase is the second in as many months. Earlier this month it was increased by 14 cents a liter. [passage omitted]



**South Africa: Neighboring Countries Criticize  
'Unfair Trade Practices'**

*MB3005121496 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1152 GMT 30 May 96*

[Article by Maku Bwititi]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Cape Town May 30 SAPA — By publicly accusing South Africa of unfair trade practices at the recent Southern African Economic Summit in Cape Town, Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe vented concerns troubling political and business leaders in some of South Africa's neighbouring countries.

For years Zimbabwe and other Southern African countries had suffered in near silence while the economic giant that is South Africa flooded the region's markets with its own cheap goods while imposing punitive measures on imports from her African trading partners, the ZIANA national news agency reports.

This was now putting industry in Zimbabwe and other countries in the region out of business. But dispensing with diplomatic niceties, Mugabe, leading a government and business delegation to the Southern African Economic Summit, spoke for virtually all countries in Southern Africa when he accused South African industries of "arrogance" by protecting their own industries while dumping their cheaper goods on markets in the region.

The summit, organised by the 12-member Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Swiss-based World Economic Forum, was meant to bring in more international investors.

The issue of South Africa's economic dominance in the region was such that Zimbabwe's Finance Minister Herbert Murerwa complained to Mugabe that a senior South African Central Bank executive had boasted at the summit that South Africa did not need the SADC economically.

(Zimbabwe is South Africa's biggest trading partner in Africa and its third in the world, although the balance of trade is skewed in favour of Pretoria. South African exports to the African region in 1995 amounted to ZD9.4 billion [Zimbabwe dollars] with ZD 5 billion of these going to Zimbabwe while Harare exported goods worth around ZD 2.7 billion to Pretoria).

"South Africa cherishes the notion that because it is the most developed country in the region it can use other SADC countries as receptacles for its goods while protecting its own industries," fumed Mugabe.

"This is the common feeling now which is developing in the region," he told Zimbabwean businessmen and government officials in Cape Town.

Botswana's President Ketumile Masire agreed with Mugabe, lamenting that the trade balance between his country and South Africa was lopsided in favour of Pretoria. Mugabe said Zimbabwe would put in place its own regime to protect its own industries.

Meanwhile, Zambia's President Frederick Chiluba has accused South Africa of committing economic injustice towards his country.

"We believe a lot has to be done by our brothers in South Africa to look at the situation, turn it around and enable for the levelling of this playing field so trade would flow between, and among, countries in the region," Chiluba was quoted as saying in an interview with a Zimbabwean daily.

Namibian Trade and Industry Deputy Minister Wilfred Emvula, on a trade mission to Zimbabwe in February, said his country looked forward to the day when all trade barriers in the region would be removed.

"We look forward to the day when the countries in the region are going to sign the trade protocol," Emvula said, adding that barriers to freer trade retarded economic growth in the region.

The trade protocol, already in draft form, will be reviewed by SADC leaders at their summit scheduled for Maseru, Lesotho, later this year.

Although Zimbabwean government officials dispute that Mugabe's pronouncements would lead to a trade war with South Africa, economic analysts believe South Africa's reaction to Mugabe's comments could determine Harare's next course of action.

"If South Africa retains the same arrogance it is displaying now, as the President rightly pointed out, then the Zimbabwe Government would not have a choice but to put in place its own measures and this could ultimately lead to a trade war," an industrialist said.

And Pretoria may have read the signals.

Following Mugabe's no-holds-barred comments and mounting pressure from the Zimbabwean delegation of ministers and business executives at the world economic forum, South Africa has agreed to sit down and talk business on the stalled trade talks.

Pretoria is sending a negotiating team to Harare on June 10, led by Industry and Trade Minister Alec Erwin. It will include government officials, business executives and representatives of labour unions.

The 1964 Preferential Trade Agreement between Zimbabwe and South Africa expired in December 1992 and

efforts by Zimbabwe to negotiate a new trade pact have failed.

"Time has come to protect our own industries," Mugabe has declared. "We must act in defence."

But Zimbabwe should learn a lesson from this "practice of putting all its eggs in one basket", argues one business executive.

"This should teach us to spread our markets outside South Africa," says Zimbabwe National Chamber of Commerce (ZNCC) president Danny Meyer.

"We should cultivate other markets in the region for our exports and not concentrate on South Africa alone," urges the ZNCC boss whose organisation has now gone on the offensive to promote regional trade.

**South Africa: Relationship With Israel To Be Reviewed After Election**

MB3005203196 Johannesburg SABC 3 Television Network in English 1800 GMT 30 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] South Africa's relationship with Israel under Likud rule is unlikely to change provided the peace process stays on track. South Africa's ambassador in Tel Aviv says the government will only review its position, if relations between Palestine and Israel are affected.

[Begin recording] [SABC reporter Ronel van Zyl] With President Nelson Mandela's inauguration in 1994, PLO leader, Yasser Arafat, took an honorary seat. Under the F.W. de Klerk regime, any diplomatic contact with Palestine was unthinkable. South Africa had a rather special friendship with Israel, although it was born of necessity, that of military cooperation. Trade links and an influential Jewish community in South Africa also help to strengthen the ties. But the ANC government preferred an approach of even-handedness. Last year Palestine was officially recognized, and next week the new South African representative is opening an office on the West Bank. So far, the government has succeeded in balancing its relations between the two countries, but if the peace process is scuppered as some predict, South Africa could be faced with a difficult choice.

[Professor Robert Schirer, political studies, University of Cape Town] If the Arab states pull out of peace talks with Israel, this then forces South Africa to make a choice between Israel and middle eastern countries, in the same way as we have to perhaps choose between Taiwan and the People's Republic of China.

[Van Zyl] South Africa's ambassador to Israel says its not a case of taking sides, but of continuing to give the peace unqualified support.

[Malcolm Ferguson, in Tel Aviv] Given our own domestic experience in South Africa, given the enormous stature of our president, given our president's commitment to a process of peace-making, we'll commit ourselves to support for a process, and to support those who are committed to the process. I think that any party who places themselves outside of the process, and becomes an enemy of the process, obviously that is the position that will then require us to review our positions.

[Van Zyl] If Perez's Labor party retains power, and the peace process bears fruit, South Africa's good relations with both Israel and Arab states would continue undisturbed, but which ever party wins, it's in South Africa's own interest for the peace process to go ahead, in order to avoid a divisive domestic debate. [end recording]

**South Africa: Saudi Company Sues Armscor, SANDF Over Arms Debacle**

MB3005195696 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 29 May 96 p 12

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A company belonging to a Saudi prince is suing, among others, Armscor and the National Defence Force [SANDF] in the Supreme Court in Pretoria for the return of a consignment of AK-47's which led to major embarrassment for the South African Government in 1994.

The consignment, consisting of AK47's, G3 assault rifles and ammunition, was sold to an arms dealer, Mr Eli Wazan, in 1994 under the pretext that it was destined for Lebanon.

After it left South Africa, Armscor found out that the consignment was actually on its way to the Christian Militia in Yemen — a country to which arms exports were prohibited in terms of a UN arms embargo.

The consignment was returned to South Africa and is in Defence Force storage.

The debacle led to the Cameron Commission of Inquiry, which found that the Armscor Act should be changed in such a way that Armscor should no longer be able to both market arms and regulate arms exports.

In papers before the Supreme Court, the company, Eastern Discovery which belongs to Saudi prince Anwar Al Shalan said it was the owner of the arms, and claimed damages from the Danish company, Elite Shipping (which originally transported the arms to Yemen), Armscor and the SANDF. Eastern Discovery claimed that Armscor and the shipping company had conspired not to deliver the arms as per contract but to return it to South Africa to save Armscor embarrassment after it became known that the arms were on their way to Yemen.



Eastern said the SANDF now refused to return the arms, and claimed damages for a loss of profit, shipping charges and its legal costs for appearing before the Cameron Commission.

The shipping company, on the other hand, is claiming damages from the transport of the arms and costs relating to additional war risk insurance for the extended stay of its ship in Yemen. Eastern Shipping also said the cargo did not belong to Eastern, and denied conspiring with Armscor. Armscor also denied such a conspiracy.

The Minister of Defence, who is in possession of the cargo, said in court papers he was unable to release it to Eastern, as the company was not licensed to possess any part of the cargo in South Africa, and had no permit.

Mr Justice De Villiers yesterday ordered that certain papers should be exchanged between the parties by May 30.

South African Press Review for 30 May

MB3005135596

[FBIS Report]

#### SOWETAN

'Exodus' of Nurses From Provincial Hospitals — Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 30 May in a page-12 editorial comments on the "exodus" of 3,400 nurses from the Gauteng provincial hospitals over the past three years for more lucrative offers in the private sector. "If the situation is not arrested, these hospitals will inevitably end up being manned by underqualified, ill-equipped and inexperienced nursing personnel, leading to the deterioration of services and falling standards."

Bodyguards' Wages — A second editorial on the same page of SOWETAN notes that Eastern Cape members of the Executive Council bodyguards are earning up to 14,000 rands, R, per month. "It is not only a waste of taxpayers' money but a scandal, especially when viewed against the fact that some professionals in the public service, such as teachers and nurse, are struggling to earn even a quarter of R14,000."

#### BUSINESS DAY

Addressing State Debt Through Privatization — Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 30 May in a page-14 editorial comments on the "urgent need to address state debt," and recommends it be done through "the sale of state-owned assets best managed by the private sector." "Purists might argue that privatisation proceeds should be spent on developing infrastructure rather than on repaying government debt. But this is

a luxury the country may soon ill afford if government's budget is increasingly swallowed by debt servicing." While Public Enterprises Minister Stella Sigcau is "now committing her party to privatisation, it is still not clear that the process will be sufficiently fast or easy, given COSATU's [Congress of South African Trade Unions] position on the issue." Neither the ANC government nor COSATU "can ignore the present economic imperatives." Therefore, "overcoming the privatisation impasses must be dealt with urgently. The longer it is delayed, the longer the delay in resolving government's debt-servicing conundrum and the greater the danger of a debt-induced economic crisis."

#### THE CITIZEN

COSATU Going 'Haywire' — It looks as if COSATU "has gone haywire," according to the page-6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 29 May. COSATU Secretary General Sam Shilowa "attacked banks, warned Old Mutual, slammed the SA Foundation and reiterated COSATU's opposition to privatisation." The paper does not think President Mandela "can avoid a showdown with COSATU, which is a huge embarrassment to him and the ANC." "The government dare not bow to COSATU's dictates, nor can it be seen to be influenced by trade unionists to the extent that it has been." The ANC is urged to "break with COSATU now."

#### BEELD

COSATU 'Shortsighted' — "A country's banking system is the lifeblood of its economy, and if this system should suffer, then all confidence — domestic and abroad — is lost," says a page-12 editorial in Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans of 29 May. COSATU's intention to take banks to court because they have "unanimously increased their lending rates," could "sound to some like a joke," while abroad it will be regarded "as an onslaught against the banking system." South African banks were "forced" to increase their interest rates, as this was "determined by money market forces." COSATU then saw "a gap," and is now trying to focus attention on itself by "riding on the back of the Council on Competition's investigation." When a country starts to "investigate its banks" where market forces were the reasons why interest rates had to be increased, then such a country is on the way to "becoming yet another Africa statistic in the books of foreign investors." COSATU, through "its political show of power, wants to recruit more members." Such a strategy is "shortsighted," the editorial warns. Without confidence in a banking system, COSATU also "cannot make a living."



## Botswana

### Botswana: Citizens Call For Truth Commission Hearing in Botswana

MB3005205596 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1614 GMT 30 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GABARONE May 30 SAPA — Botswanans want to know who in apartheid South Africa ordered the numerous cross border raids into their country by the then South African Defence Force [SADF].

The families of some victims are asking about compensation.

"What happened is of public interest," permanent secretary to the president Louis Selepeng told a SAPA correspondent on Thursday [30 May].

South African High Commissioner to Botswana Rantobeng Oupa Mokou confirmed receiving a call from a Botswana citizen now living in South Africa, whose child was killed in a cross-border SADF raid. Mokou said the mother asked about testifying before the Truth Commission and making a claim for compensation.

During a recent visit, MP Patricia de Lille suggested that the commission sit in Botswana.

SADF and military intelligence activities in Botswana were mentioned to the commission by African National Congress activist Ongopotse Tiro's mother. Tiro was killed by a letter bomb sent to the house where he was staying in Gaborone.

"There were many other incidents, but we have had no request from South Africa to bring the Truth Commission here. I cannot pre-empt the South African government, only reply to any request from them," Selepeng said.

In the most documented incident, on June 14, 1985, an SADF patrol seeking ANC activists attacked a house in Gaborone and killed seven Botswanans. During his state visit to Botswana last year, President Nelson Mandela laid wreaths on the victims' graves. Newspapers reported at the time were that the youngest killed was a six-year-old boy, the oldest a 71-year-old man. Two others were teenagers.

There has never been any official confirmation that any of the dead were involved in any terrorist activities, or were ANC members. The reports referred to them as "ANC sympathisers involved in cultural activities".

As Mandela laid the wreaths in September, the weekly newspaper Mmegi called upon the ANC-led South African government to apologise for the raid.

"The new government would be best advised to come to Botswana and apologise for the brutal deeds of the compatriots of the former regime. Let us hope that never again will one of our neighbours commit such grotesque bestiality," Mmegi commented.

## Madagascar

### Madagascar: New Prime Minister Ratsirahonana Takes Office

EA3005161296 Antananarivo Radio Nationale  
Malagasy Network in Malagasy  
1600 GMT 29 May 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Former Prime Minister Emmanuel Rakotovahiny handed over power to new Prime Minister Norbert Ratsirahonana at around 1100 today. The ceremony was held in a very friendly atmosphere at Mahazoarivo Palace, according to journalists. Prime Minister Norbert Ratsirahonana praised Prime Minister Emmanuel Rakotovahiny for displaying what he called "fair play" [last two words in English]. [passage omitted]

## Namibia

### Namibia: Country Signs Military Aid Agreement With Russia

MB3105104296 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1018 GMT 31 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Windhoek May 31 SAPA — Namibia and Russia have signed a military co-operation agreement that will assist the Namibian Defence Force [NDF] with training and equipment.

THE NAMIBIAN newspaper reported in Windhoek on Friday [31 May] that the agreement follows Namibian Defence Minister Philemon Malima's visit to Russia in April and subsequent negotiations between the two countries.

Malima said the agreement provided for training of NDF officers by Russian armed forces either in Namibia or Russia, repair and maintenance of equipment procured from Russia and co-operation in other military fields. He declined to go into details about what kind of equipment Namibia was interested in obtaining.

Malima pointed out that Namibia was a young country in terms of establishing a defence force and said that when South Africa withdrew prior to independence in 1990, all military equipment was withdrawn as well. "Namibia was left without even a single helicopter, without a single vessel to patrol the coast and without armoured equipment," he said.

Chairman of Russia's State Committee on Technical-Military Policy, Sergey Svechnikov, who signed the agreement with Malima, declined to go into details of what Russia would gain from it. He said some of the issues had not yet been agreed upon and others were of a "delicate" nature and could not be revealed.

The agreement would increase the combat readiness of the NDF and also support the "military industrial complex" of Russia, Svechnikov said.

### Swaziland

**Swaziland: Chamber of Commerce Notes Lack of New Investment**

*MB3105083996 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 31 May 96 p 10*

[Report by Gugu Mpapane]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mbabane — No new substantial investors have been attracted to Swaziland over the last few years.

This was observed by the President of the Swaziland Chamber of Commerce, Mervyn Lubbe in the Chamber's report for 1995/96.

He said that this was despite that some existing companies like Usutu Pulp, Mhlume Sugar, Cadbury's and Fridge Master recently launched expansion plans.

He noted that during the mid-eighties, a number of companies relocated from South Africa to Swaziland mainly because of the sanctions which were being applied on the latter at the time.

"It would seem that the Swaziland government thought that windfall investment would continue to prevail and made little or no effort to sell Swaziland's attributes to the outside world", Lubbe said.

However the situation is very different today, almost akin to a reversal of roles of the two countries. Investors would rather settle in South Africa than Swaziland after the political calm in that country.

The industrial atmosphere in Swaziland has not been very conducive to would-be investors of late and Swaziland needs to work extra hard to restore that confidence foreign investors used to have in the country.

Employment creation is extremely slow and Lubbe foresees that unemployment can be expected to increase, blaming over reliance on the public sector for this cause as the main culprit.

"Prospects for economic growth and job creation will remain poor unless a proactive programme to encourage investment is urgently undertaken and sustained", he said.

The economic situation and high level of unemployment, coupled with the high population growth rate is unsatisfactory and carries with it the prospects of social and political tensions.

Lubbe highlighted that the transformation of the new South Africa has meant that the desirability of investing in Swaziland has greatly diminished thus affecting new investments, while inadequate infrastructure, poor labour relations and onerous work permit regulations could drive existing businesses back across the border.

### Zambia

**Zambia: Suspected Bomb Blast at Ndola Newspaper Office 31 May**

*MB3105115996 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1115 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] An explosion rocked part of the TIMES OF ZAMBIA offices in Ndola, early this morning, destroying property worth millions of kwacha. The explosion occurred at the (?side wall) of the (?completed) graphics office, damaging one air conditioner, a computer, while several windowpanes were shattered in the blast.

A ZNBC news team that visited the TIMES OF ZAMBIA offices found debris from the shattered air conditioners and windowpanes scattered at the site. No one was injured in the blast, which is suspected to have been caused by a bomb. [Words indistinct] the area and have assured workers that the area is safe. Police Inspector General Francis Ndlhovu confirmed the blast [words indistinct].

Meanwhile, President Chiluba has described the bomb blast as unfortunate. Mr. Chiluba said that the bomb blast will not deter his government from going ahead with the [words indistinct] from the past years of dictatorship.

The president was in high spirits and [words indistinct] told ZNBC in [word indistinct] that the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] will not be deterred by bomb blasts. Mr. Chiluba, who was [words indistinct] and commercial show said the perpetrators of the blast had shown that the MMD was doing the right thing but wanted to frustrate its work.

The bomb blast follows threats by a shadowy group, the Black Mamba organization, to bomb the TIMES' premises.



**Zambia: Chiluba Warns Opposition Against Anarchy**

*MB3005193396 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English  
1800 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Chiluba has disclosed that opposition parties intend to form an alliance with the aim of creating political disturbances in Lusaka and warned that the law will not spare them. Mr. Chiluba said he has received information that the opposition intend to create anarchy and has called on Zambians to be alert and report suspicious activities to the police.

Speaking on arrival at Southdowns Airport in Kalulushi this afternoon, Mr. Chiluba said the opposition intend to hold a joint rally in Lusaka at which they will announce an alliance and later on undertake a demonstration. Mr. Chiluba, who is on the Copperbelt to officially open this year's Copperbelt Agriculture and Commercial Show in Kitwe tomorrow, was addressing MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] cadres who welcomed him at the airport. He said the utterances by some opposition leaders is unfortunate because a true Zambian cannot accept to cause disturbances.

**Zambia: Vice President Warns UNIP Against Resorting to Violence**

*MB3105065396 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English  
0500 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vice President Brigadier General Godfrey Miyanda has warned UNIP [United National Independence Party] against any violence simply because its leader, Dr. Kenneth Kaunda, has been barred from contesting this year's presidential and parliamentary elections. General Miyanda said violence should not be the violence to what had been passed as law because this was the wish of the Zambians themselves.

The vice president was speaking when he addressed the civic leaders, farmers, the business community, and [words indistinct] to explain the implications of the just signed Constitution Amendment Bill. He said the (?allegation) that the new Constitution was made to stop the former Republican president from contesting the presidency was wrong.

**Zambia: Vice President on Asians' Nonattendance at Chipata Rally**

*MB3105065296 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English  
0500 GMT 31 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vice President Brigadier General Godfrey Miyanda was yesterday disappointed to note that no one from the Asian community attended a meeting he addressed in Chipata despite invitations having been sent to them.

The vice president appealed to the Asian community in the Eastern Province to support the ruling MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] government and [words indistinct] (?oward) the local people. He said Asians should thank the MMD government and respect hospitality because the MMD has created an [words indistinct] for a liberalized market economy, unlike the UNIP [United National Independence Party] government.

He said by saying this he was not a racist, but was only saddened to note that the Asians in the province were refusing to respond to invitations from the MMD.

The vice president was in Chipata to explain the amendment to the Constitution which has since been signed by the president.

**Zambia: Government Reshuffles Permanent Secretaries**

*MB3005125396 Lusaka Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Network in English  
1115 GMT 29 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The government has made major changes and its contracts with two permanent secretaries have been terminated, while five others have been retired.

Secretary to the Cabinet Aldridge Adamson, who announced the changes in Lusaka today, said that the contracts of the permanent secretaries in the office of the vice president, Dr. Godwin Muiyoba, and his counterpart at legal affairs, (Kaluba Kanselo), have been terminated.

Mr. Adamson said that those retired include former chief of protocol, Mukonda Lungu; Amon Chibanda, also from foreign affairs; and Central Province permanent secretary (Leon Ndevo).

He added that (?the principal) of the National Institute for Public Administration, NIPA, (Ned Nglobo) and (Godsend Nkaira), in charge of policy, analysis, and coordination division at Cabinet Office have also been retired.



Meanwhile, Mr. Adamson has announced the appointment of former human rights activist, Mrs. (Laura Haulo), as permanent secretary at the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. She takes over from Ms. Josephine Mapoma, who moved to the Ministry of Housing and Technology.

Mr. (Sebastian Kopulande) is the permanent secretary in the office of the minister without portfolio, Mr. (Jiva Jihala) at legal affairs, while Mr. William Siroya will be at foreign affairs. Dr. Vukani Nyirenda moves to NIPA, while Dr. (Joshua Kanganza) will be at public service management division, and Ms. Bridget Mwanakaoma is permanent secretary for special duties at Cabinet Office.

Mr. (Christopher Kaluba) is permanent secretary at Cabinet Office in charge of policy, analysis, and coordination division.

Southern Province Permanent Secretary Dr. Kapita Mulowa has been transferred to the Ministry of Commerce, Trade, and Industry.

And the Ministry of Finance has been merged with the National Commission for Development Planning [NCDP]. Secretary to the Cabinet Mr. Aldridge Adamson announced the measure when [words indistinct] the performance of ministries (?in the) provinces.

Following the merger, Joseph Beyani has been appointed secretary to the (?president), while James Mtonga will be in charge of financial management division.

Also affected by the changes are Mrs. Irene Kamanga, from NCDP, who will now be in charge of economic development and projects division.

Announcing the measures, the secretary to the cabinet said the successful implementation of the Structural Adjustment Program required a fundamental change in the role of government. He said this is [words indistinct] development objectives and facilitate private sector growth.

#### **Zambia: Editorial Criticizes Permanent Secretaries' Appointments**

MB3105064796 Lusaka THE POST in English  
31 May 96

[Editorial: "Cadres Invade Civil Service" — received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yesterday's civil service appointments confirmed President Chiluba's lack of honesty and commitment to promises. President Chiluba and the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] had been bitterly complaining about the politicisation of the civil service by the former UNIP [United National

Independence Party] government. The President has often accused civil servants of lacking professionalism.

We agree with him that there was some politicisation of the civil service in the Second Republic which, in some ways, led to the declining efficiency of the public sector.

But the President has not done anything to reverse this trend, instead he has actively helped to aggravate matters. Very few of the appointments President Chiluba has made in the civil service can be said to be in the interests of efficiency. They are much more based on political patronage.

Party cadres, who have never managed any institutions, have been appointed permanent secretaries to administer huge and complicated ministries. Analysing the backgrounds, political and otherwise, of the people who were appointed permanent secretaries reveals an appalling lack of seriousness on the part of the President. It is clear that the appointments are rewards for being loyal and belonging to the ruling MMD.

It is not our intention to "victimise" people like [new permanent secretary in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting] Laura Harrison, who seriously needed a job and has been greatly helped by being appointed permanent secretary. She made the right financial decision to join MMD!

And [Legal Affairs Permanent Secretary] Eva Jhala seems to have been well rewarded for doing all sorts of things with Presidential aide Eric Silwamba and of course the great role she played in drafting and defending President Chiluba's constitution. She has earned her promotion to permanent secretary.

[Permanent secretary in the office of the minister without portfolio] Sebastian Kopulande risked going to hell by taking on Catholic bishops in his defence of President Chiluba's constitution. He has been well rewarded on earth, we hope he will carry part of it with him to heaven! The names of other appointees may also crop up in some other MMD schemes to cheat the people over the constitution. [Public service management division chief] Joshua Kanganja was part of the team that was supposed to have accompanied some ministers on the speedy referendum that was foiled by THE POST, and whose expose led to the banning of the paper's edition number 401. And with these type of appointments, President Chiluba hopes to depoliticise, and create efficiency in, the civil service!

It is a big joke.

**Zambia: Barotse Association Denies Information Minister Remarks**

*MB3105065596 Lusaka THE POST in English  
31 May 96*

[Report by Goodson Machona; received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Barotse Cultural Association (BCA) has described as "sheer ignorance" chief government spokesman, Information Minister Amusaa Mwanamwambwa's denial that Barotseland was a sovereign country prior to the signing of the Barotse Agreement of 1964.

BCA national chairman, Batuke Imenda, in a statement yesterday charged that Mwanamwambwa's denial was "highly mischievous, misguided and treacherous" to the people of Barotseland.

"Barotseland derived its sovereignty from its defined territory, its national anthem Buluzi Lifasi Fasi La Bondata Luna (Barotseland the Land of Our Fathers) and its national flag," Imenda said. "This was confirmed by European powers during the scramble for Africa between 1884-1885." According to Imenda, Barotseland is older than Northern Rhodesia which was only created in 1911 following the amalgamation of North Eastern and North Western Rhodesia. "This fact is confirmed by a series of treaties and covenants stretching from 1884-1964 between the Barotse Kings and the British crown," Imenda said, stressing: "Mwanamwambwa should realise that only sovereign or free people can enter into treaties and covenants."

But Mwanamwambwa in an interview last week Sunday dismissed the BCA claims as "a lie" stating that though Barotseland was called a protectorate within a protectorate, it was administered from Northern Rhodesia unlike Botswana, Swaziland and Lesotho which were run by the colonial office directly from London.

"It's a lie. There was never a separate entity called Barotseland," he said. "There is no such province or territory in any part of the world."

But BCA National Secretary Mutete Kashimani, insists that the Barotse kings were able to sign international treaties and covenants because they were not dependent people.

He quoted the Barotse Agreement which states: "...and whereas it is the wish of the government of Northern Rhodesia and the Litunga of Barotseland to enter into arrangements concerning Barotseland as part of the Republic of Zambia to take the place of the treaties and other agreements hereto subsisting between her majesty the Queen and Litunga [paramount chief] of

Barotseland," as proof that Barotseland was a sovereign state prior to the signing of the Barotse Agreement.

The BCA also said that the newly signed Constitution of Zambia (Amendment) Bill disqualifies Lozi's [people of Barotseland] from contesting the presidency due to the fact that they are not indigenous Zambians since they were born in Barotseland and not Northern Rhodesia and warned that if this is not rescinded then President Chiluba is finished in Barotseland".

**Zambia: New Kwacha Notes Arrive From UK, To Circulate Soon**

*MB3005193596 Lusaka Zambia National  
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English  
1800 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The new high denomination notes have finally arrived in the country after an injunction concerning an 85 million pounds debt owed to (Camdex) was removed. The injunction was obtained to withhold the notes in the United Kingdom, following what Deputy Bank of Governor Dr. Chitumbuko Musokotwane termed as the dispute between Bank of Zambia and (Camdex) over meeting the debt payment. Dr. Musokotwane said in Lusaka today that the 1, 5, and 10,000 kwacha notes will be injected into circulation as soon as formalities are completed. He explained that the release of the notes will not change the 86 billion kwacha stock currently in circulation. Dr. Musokotwane said an equivalent of each new note released will be removed from the old notes in circulation. He pointed out that despite the injunction, the security of the notes was not tampered with because the notes were on the [words indistinct] all the time.

**Zimbabwe**

**Zimbabwe: White Farmers Challenge Land Seizure in Court**

*MB3005182896 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1435 GMT 30 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] HARARE May 30 SAPA — The highest challenge yet by Zimbabwe's white farmers to President Robert Mugabe's plans to seize large chunks of their land opened in the country's Supreme Court on Thursday [30 May].

Two days have been set aside by the country's most senior court with a full bench of five judges - two whites, two blacks and an Asian - to hear pleas from three white farmers to abolish laws introduced by Mugabe in 1992 as part of a "revolutionary land policy" that they claim strips them of their constitutional rights to own their farms.



Farmers Allister Davies, Erna McLean and Mike Clark had their farms "designated for acquisition" by government three years ago, an official earmarking of their land for seizure, and a move that forbids them from selling their land and from putting any capital development on the property, although they are permitted to work their farms.

They charge that "designation", the first step in the process of seizing their land, amounts to the same as taking over the land, without paying for it. A farm can stay "designated" for 10 years.

The farmers lost the first round of their legal battle against the law when a judge in the high court here said designation was a "legitimate" tool for government to use to take land to resettle peasant farmers.

The controversial law was passed in 1992 and declared by Mugabe as the weapon he would wield to redistribute land to peasant farmers that he claims was "stolen" during white rule following the arrival of a military column of British and South African settlers mounted by British empire-builder Cecil Rhodes over a century ago.

About 28 percent of the land in Zimbabwe is run by about 4,200 large-scale commercial farmers, the majority of them whites who account for about 85 percent of the country's marketed agricultural production.

Some 800,000 peasant farmers scrape a subsistence living off overcrowded tribal lands covering 54 percent of the country.

#### **Zimbabwe: Farmers—Land Nationalization Causes 'No-Win' Situation**

*MB3005195096 Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 23 May 96 p 1*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The government would precipitate a "no-win" situation with the country's farming community if it implements recent suggestions to declare all land state land, farmers and economic analysts said this week.

The Commercial Farmers Union (CFU) said such a move would be contrary to the essential requirements of a market economy where property rights should be guaranteed. The Zimbabwe Farmers Union (ZFU), which represents a majority of small-scale and communal farmers, said it was equally disturbed by such a prospect.

The comments by the two farming organisations come in the wake of disclosures by President Mugabe earlier this month that proposals to nationalise all land had been put forward to the ruling ZANU [Zimbabwe African

National Union] (PF) party and the government with a view to formulating necessary legislation.

The proposal is double-hatched: it seeks to redress the land imbalance, including the speeding up of the resettlement programme, that has been at the centre of the country's political ideology and also raise revenue for the Treasury through payment of levies by those utilising the land.

Peter MacSporran, president of the CFU, said his organisation fully supported the government's policy of resettlement to redress the land imbalance. However, he said this should be done in a responsible manner where people are given title deeds so that they become more responsible for its productive and sustainable use.

"We are moving into a market economy where the rights to own property are important," MacSporran said in an interview.

ZFU president Gary Magadzire said: "How do you expect the farmer to invest in the land without property rights? As far as the rural farmers are concerned, they believe that the piece of land they have, in African custom, is theirs and can be inherited by their children."

Magadzire, who declined to comment in detail on the proposed nationalisation of all land, nonetheless emphasised that agriculture should be treated like any other business or industry where policies are applied in a uniform manner. If industrialists had rights, it should follow that farmers be entitled to title deeds, he said.

MacSporran said he hoped the proposals remained at consideration level.

#### **Zimbabwe: Germany—Political, Economic Transparency Before Investment**

*MB3005200696 Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 23 May 96 pp 7, 8*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Germany has told President Mugabe his government should first show political and economic transparency as a pre-condition for German investors to help revive the domestic economy.

In an interview, German federal minister of economic affairs, Gunter Rexrodt said he had told Mugabe German investors wanted to see democracy prevailing in Zimbabwe and the creation of a free market atmosphere before they poured millions of their deutschmarks into the country's ailing economy.

Rexrodt visited Zimbabwe last week. Next September, Mugabe leads a powerful business delegation to Germany on an investment-seeking crusade. Annual trade between Germany and Zimbabwe stands at about \$3.25



billion [Zimbabwean dollars] (DM500 million). The two countries are connected by direct flights between Harare and Frankfurt. Germany is Zimbabwe's third largest trading partner after South Africa and Britain.

"German investors are keen to invest in Zimbabwe, but they want to see that the government sticks to democracy and also to a free market economy," said Rexrodt, who was in Zimbabwe on an economic reconnaissance tour of southern Africa before coming to Harare.

He had been to Johannesburg where he met South Africa's President Mandela.

Rexrodt met Mugabe last Friday (24 May) along with ministers Herbert Murerwa of Finance, Nathan Shamuyarira of Industry and Commerce and Stan Audenge of Foreign Affairs. He also met Zimbabwean businessmen and industrialists at a joint meeting chaired by Jonee Blanchfield, the president of the Confederation of Zimbabwe Industries.

"President Mugabe, however, assured me that Zimbabwe has liberalised the economy and that there was an improvement on the markets," Rexrodt told the FINANCIAL GAZETTE before he left for Bonn aboard a German airforce jet, Luftwaffe.

He (Mugabe) also told me he will attend the Zimbabwe investment conference in Hamburg in September."

A number of German companies were keen to invest in Zimbabwe, especially in telecommunications, automotive and mining sectors, he said. Companies such as Daimler Benz and Bavarian Motor Works (BMW), would want to go into partnership with local companies in assembling Mercedes Benz or BMW series' locally.

Rexrodt confirmed he had raised with the president the issue of a \$200 million PTC mobile cellular tender which a German telecommunications company, Siemens International, had lost to Ericsson Radio Systems AB of Sweden, in a deal that was later nullified on the orders of Mugabe. "We touched on Siemens although we didn't go into technicalities," he said.

Mugabe has already been officially told by Bonn's envoy to Harare, Norwin Graf Leutram, that some German investors felt nervous to invest in Zimbabwe because of the non-transparency in the country's tender system.

"Zimbabwe has full potential for investment," said Rexrodt. The German minister also confirmed that his country's Bundestag (parliament) would soon ratify a bilateral trade pact signed between the two countries last year.

### Cote d'Ivoire

#### Cote d'Ivoire: Opposition Groups Refuse To Join Inquiry Into 1995 Events

AB3005194596 Abidjan LE JOUR in French  
30 May 96 p 3

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The Ivorian Popular Front [FPI] and the Rally of Republicans [RDR] will not be on the commission of inquiry put in place by the government to determine those responsible for the serious disturbances that shook Cote d'Ivoire during the October 1995 presidential election. The FPI leadership have denounced "a fabrication by Bedie who wants to reduce the Army and the opposition to obedience."

The FPI and the RDR are categorical: It is out of the question for us to take part in the deliberations of the commission set up by Bedie. Emile Boga Doudou, the interim FPI secretary general, states that his party's leadership has not received any letter inviting it to the deliberations of the commission of inquiry. However, Mr. Doudou points out: "The FPI women's organization has received a note to this effect." In any event, the FPI's refusal is final. According to the official acting for FPI Secretary General Laurent Gbagbo, the commission of inquiry is untimely and superfluous. He adds: "People were arrested in their thousands and continue to be arrested throughout the country; people are jailed, people are tried; courts have already started doing their job. Are they looking for new perpetrators?" Mr. Doudou wonders.

After analysis, FPI officials have established a link between the commission of inquiry on the October acts of violence and the one put in place to investigate the events that occurred within the Army during the same period. Through Mr. Doudou, who is a lawyer, the FPI states that Bedie is fabricating something only to blacklist a number of soldiers and the Republican Front leaders as responsible for the October 1995 events. Still according to Mr. Doudou, Bedie will then use the "conclusions drawn out in advance" of the commission of inquiry either to sentence the "guilty" or to free them through an amnesty. In the second case, Ivorians will, therefore, talk of Henri Konan Bedie's magnanimity as they used to do with his predecessor, the late President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. It is, therefore, in order not to back this fabrication that the FPI has refused to be on the commission of inquiry.

Contacted by telephone, RDR Secretary General Djéni Kobina also informed us about his party's refusal to be on the commission. However, a last minute problem prevented the RDR leader from telling us why his party has adopted such a stand. According to certain sources, the various parties of the Republican Front held lengthy

consultations before deciding to boycott the commission of inquiry set up by the government. [passage omitted]

The government had wanted the commission of inquiry to be a very broad-based body, that is why it provided for members drawn from various state institutions, and officials from the civil society, as well as one delegate from each political party represented either in the government, at the National Assembly, or in the Economic and Social Council. In view of that, the FPI and RDR, which are both represented at the National Assembly, were affected by the government's appeal to set up such a commission of inquiry. Now, with the refusal of the two major opposition parties, the credibility of the commission of inquiry will be adversely affected. Pending government's reaction, one can assert that the political tension is still far from being defused.

#### Cote d'Ivoire: Editorial—Suspicion Rife in Army Over Alleged Coup

AB3005210796 Abidjan LE JOUR in French  
30 May 96 p 3

[Commentary by Tollys Bebo]

[FBIS Translated Text] The National Armed Forces of Cote d'Ivoire is going through a delicate period that may affect its equilibrium. What is the origin of this malaise? The main actors, unfortunately, are not doing anything to help us understand the malaise because they prefer to give free rein to the wildest of rumors.

It all began on the eve of the 1995 general elections. Like wildfire, the noise of an attempted military overthrow spread throughout the economic capital as if the alleged plotters wanted to openly defy the government and public opinion. Some described with precision the apocalyptic scenario which was supposed to put an end to the current regime. Skeptics, who considered the rumors as mere indoctrination of public opinion, were to change their minds with the first wave of arrests of officers and noncommissioned officers, and the firing of General Robert Guei, the chief of defense staff.

Today, it is certain that something happened within the Army. What exactly happened? That is the mystery! So far, the secret has been very well kept by the military and civilian authorities. Thus, eight months later, "the September-October 1995 events" are still talked about in almost coded language, giving vent to the most whimsical interpretations. However, judging from the 8 May communique issued after a meeting between the president of the Republic and senior and general service officers of the Army, the Gendarmerie has conducted an investigation. Some talk of three

simultaneous investigations which reportedly led to the same conclusions. They claim that a judicial inquiry has even been opened by the trial judge of the military tribunal.

President Bedie, who received the report, at most "deplored the negative conduct of certain soldiers who, during the electoral period, did not show the loyalty required of them by Republican institutions and the laws in force." He continued on a moralizing tone: "The punishment of disciplinary offenses is necessary to ensure the Army's cohesion, but it is even more imperative to envisage measures likely to promote the changing of mentalities within the Army."

At the end of the meeting — and if confidences are anything to go by — the head of state asked the soldiers to resolve the issue at their level. By way of reply, the senior and general service officers asked President Bedie to mete out "exemplary punishment to the guilty ones" and that "without any exception" the guilty soldiers and their accomplices of all ranks should pay for their acts according to the provisions of the military code."

What is surprising here is that having noted cases of indiscipline in the Army, the president asked the military to assume its responsibility to establish order, and the very military turned to the president asking him to act without any complex by punishing the guilty soldiers of all ranks. This is causing eyes to turn toward the minister of sports.

Indeed, the name of General Guei has often been cited and some go as far as saying that with the passage of time his involvement in the foiled coup is becoming more and more evident. Some see him as the mastermind of the foiled coup, but what do the investigations say? Though attacked from all angles, Gen. Guei maintains a stony silence. Is he bound by an oath of secrecy? Does he want to let the world say what it will, or does he simply feel guilty? A word from him will clear the air.

No, the general has chosen to keep quiet. For what reasons? No one knows yet, but those close to him say the former chief of defense staff is unruffled. He reportedly met with Bedie who assured him. On the contrary, according to the same sources, fellow soldiers have ganged up against the general, swearing to have his head. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson Essoh Lath Akadje, assisted by Colonels Timite and Afran are cited as leaders of the clique. The general's advocates argue that it was easier for him to stage a coup during the 1993 transition period, but he rather opted for Republican legality.

Oh, how necessary it is for the general to talk! Rather than leave it — by his silence — to the president, who is giving himself time to reflect. Meanwhile, the situation is getting worse, especially in the Army where suspicion is rife and an incriminatory atmosphere reigns. Information reaching us is rather disturbing. For instance, meetings are held on the basis of ethnic affiliation in an Army which is supposed to be the melting pot of national unity, in the service of the Republic.

The president can buy as much time as he chooses, but he must know that the situation, which is already confused, is deteriorating day in and day out. If the wild rumors — which befuddle the mind — are proof that the democratization of the Ivorian society is yet to come, then they can, at any moment, cause real indoctrination likely to serve all schemes and designs. In a Republic worthy of the name, the Army is the slave of the state. Let us not turn ours into its queen. History is replete with examples.

## Ghana

### Ghana: Election Commission Official Explains Reopening of Register

AB3005113596 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English  
1800 GMT 29 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Electoral Commission says the exercise it has projected for 1st to 9th of next month is not a wholesale reopening of the voters register. It is to allow persons who have attained the age of 18 to exercise their franchise. James Amoa of our news desk got the deputy chairman of the Electoral Commission, Mr. David Kanga, on telephone and asked of his reaction to the NPP [New Patriotic Party]'s decision to go to court over the projected registration:

[Begin recording] [Amoa] Mr. David Abienze Kanga told me that the Constitution had mandated the commission to reopen the voters register once every year to allow all qualified voters to register. He said persons above 18 years will be allowed to register if they can supply enough evidence to prove why they did not register last year. He explained that the commission has a questionnaire which those above 18 years will have to fill and explain why they failed to register last October. Mr. Kanga added that if such a person is found to have told a lie to enable him or her to register, he or she will be prosecuted.

[Kanga] We are saying that we are not reopening the register. We are only carrying out an exercise to capture young people who had turned 18 this year and we are



using it to give opportunity to those who could not register last October also to do so, because last year, while the registration was going on in October, we had told the whole nation that those who were not 18 should not do anything.... [pauses] We cannot do anything to register. They should wait so that this year, we will be able to register them. We are only following up that promise.

[Amao] Some members of the opposition parties claim that the voters register, that is the provisional one that was prepared last year, is already (?over gloated). They are saying that the figure of 9.2 million registered voters is too big for a population where over half of the citizens are children. That is why they are asking to [words indistinct].

[Kanga] Last year, during the registration, it was categorically stated that the registrable population was between 8.5 and 10.5 and we are only midway. We have not gone near the upper limit. So, we do not think that the 9.2 that we have registered is a high figure, anyway.

[Amao] [words indistinct] threat from the NPP. Do you think you are going to discontinue the exercise?

[Kanga] If the court decides to restrain us, there is nothing we can do, because we have to respect a court's order. On the commission, this electoral commission is subject to judicial review and so if the court rules, we shall respect the court's ruling. We cannot do otherwise, anyway. [end recording]

#### **Ghana: NPP To Challenge Limited Registration**

*AB3005154396 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 29 May 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The New Patriotic Party [NPP] has decided to take the Electoral Commission [EC] to court to restrain it from going ahead with the reopening of the voters register from 1st to 9th of next month. According to the NPP, the Electoral Commission's decision is a contravention of the constitutional provision which says the register should be revised annually. The party's decision was announced at a news conference in Accra today. Ruby Amable reports:

[Begin recording] [Amable] According to the NPP, the reopening of the electoral roll for what the EC termed limited registration, is a sure way of fraud and rigging in the December election. The chairman of the party's national registration and electoral monitoring task force, Mr. Haruna Eseku, put it on record that the NPP and other opposition parties had appealed to the Electoral Commission to abandon the idea. He said the register will have to be exhibited for authentication if

the reregistration exercise goes ahead, and considering the fact that it took the EC six months after the last registration exercise to display the register, any hope of exhibition will be well into next year after the election. Mr. Eseku said the NPP is therefore going to court to ensure its commitment to the rule of law and democracy.

[Eseku] We are left with no choice in the matter. Much as we support the principle that the widest ample opportunity be given to all eligible citizens to exercise their franchise, the process must be in conformity with the rule of law. The decision to reopen the register is illegal and for that reason, the NPP rejects it.

[Amable] On what step the NPP will take if they lose at the court, Mr. Eseku said the party will abide by the court's decision. Answering other questions on doubt about the current voters register, he said the faults identified so far can be corrected. He said that the NPP is (?ready) to assist the EC cleaning the register. Mr. Eseku called on the EC to assert its independence as a safeguard against cries resulting from fraud and unfair electoral system. [end recording]

#### **Liberia**

##### **Liberia: Johnson Protests Exclusion From Monrovia Talks**

*AB3105083096 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 30 May 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] What is being described as a high-level delegation from Ghana is in Monrovia, the Liberian capital, this week trying to mediate a permanent cease-fire between the warring factions. Krahn's of the LPC [Liberian Peace Council] and AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia] have been at war with militias from Charles Taylor's NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and Alhaji Koromah's ULIMO-K [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Koromah faction] for weeks. There is a lull this week as peace-keeping forces have begun deploying throughout the battle-scarred city. But one person absent from the talks is the man some would say sparked it all off early last month — Roosevelt Johnson — who refused to accept his dismissal as a minister and leader of ULIMO-J [ULIMO-Johnson faction]. He is kicking his heels in Accra, where he has been since the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] summit that never happened early this month. He called us up today to complain, and Elizabeth Ohene asked Roosevelt Johnson what he wanted to say.

[Begin recording] [Johnson] I called to say, Elizabeth, we are being denied of going back to our people in

Liberia, to be present at the discussions that is presently going on in Liberia...

[Obene, interrupting] When you say we have been denied, I think, you have been.

[Johnson] I have been denied. I alone with my delegation that was invited here in Accra have been denied the opportunity to go back to be present at that discussion that is going on in Liberia. We believe that discussion is not in good faith in that just this morning, the so-called government forces arrested four of our soldiers named Captain Dobah, Captain Edward Davies, Captain Vuoh, and one other soldier, and they have been killed.

[Obene] How do you know that, Mr. Johnson?

[Johnson] Well, we have just got a call from our commanders on the ground, and they have given us this information. In fact, we understand that where we were having the discussion at the American Embassy, it has been transferred to the ECOMOG [ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] base, and we register our concern that the ECOMOG base does not guarantee the lives of our people. And, this is what we are seeing that is happening, and that is why they are holding us here against our will in Accra.

[Obene] But, you do have a delegation at these talks?

[Johnson] We understand that our delegation went there this morning, and they went there to register our protest on having this meeting at the ECOMOG base, and that that meeting should be transferred back to the American Embassy.

[Obene] What do you have against the ECOMOG base?

[Johnson] Well, there are several things that have been happening, several things. [Words indistinct] in Monrovia, some ECOMOG troops were physically involved in the attacks on our positions. And, we are saying until these things are scrutinized and corrected we are not prepared to be having meetings at the ECOMOG base. [end recording]

#### **Liberia: Health Minister Reports Reopening of Health Centers**

AB3005130096 Paris AFP in French  
1152 GMT 30 May 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Monrovia, 30 May (AFP) — The deployment of the Economic Community of West African States Cease-fire Monitoring Group [ECOMOG] force, which has brought calm and peace to Monrovia since 26 May, will allow for the reopening of several health centers which were closed during the seven weeks of fighting. Health Minister Vamba Kanneh said today.

According to the minister, 50 percent of social services in the capital will resume their activities thanks to this initiative of ECOMOG, "which insures the security of health and relief workers." This deployment also provides "a greater freedom for civilians who want to leave the displaced persons center to return home," the minister said. [passage omitted]

#### **Sierra Leone**

#### **Sierra Leone: Justice Minister Briefs Media on Yamoussoukro Peace Talks**

AB3005134796 Freetown SLBS Radio in English  
0700 GMT 30 May 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The attorney general and minister of justice, Mr. (Solomon Beyra), has given a comprehensive report on the outcome of the peace talks in Yamoussoukro [Cote d'Ivoire] at a news conference at State House yesterday. Mr. Beyra, who was a member of the government delegation, disclosed that out of 28 articles in the proposed peace agreement, 26 were accepted by both parties while the other two which concerned the withdrawal of foreign troops a month before demobilization and encampment and the setting up of a commission for national debt — both proposed by the RUF [Revolutionary United Front] — were yet to be agreed upon. He said that although agreement has not been reached on the two articles, all hope is not lost as the (?move) continues. Mr. Beyra declared that the momentum which has been built up showed that permanent peace for Sierra Leone is much nearer than ever before. The attorney general said that for such far-reaching achievements to be accomplished within three weeks, while similar conflict situations had taken much longer to reach a breakthrough, was commendable.

Earlier, President Tejan Kabbah made an appeal for all Sierra Leoneans to work together in unity so that permanent peace could be achieved. He described the BBC Focus on Africa report on the talks as being at variance to what transpired at the conclusive stages of the talks. We achieved about 95 percent of our objectives, President Kabbah said, adding that the international community has rated the talks as positive.

The minister of foreign affairs, Mr. (Michael Kalor), who was also a member of the delegation, said the talks are not going to fail. The minister of information and broadcasting, Mr. George Banda Thomas, chaired the press conference, which was attended by Vice President Dr. (Joe Deade), cabinet ministers, and members of the Sierra Leone delegation to the peace talks who flew in from Abidjan yesterday.



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